

VINDICATION

OF

K *Dominick Molloy*, Merchant,

AGAINST THE

False and Scandalous ASPERSIONS of
JOHN CRUMP and HOSEA COATES,
Merchants.



Quocunque jeceris, stabit.

*Who steals my Purse, steals Trash; 'tis something, nothing;
'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been Slave to thousands;
But he that filches from me my good Name,
Robs me of that, which not enriches him,
But makes me poor indeed!*

SHAKESPEAR.

D U B L I N :

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VINDICATION, &c.

REPUTATION is an Inheritance every Man has an undoubted Right to, until he renders himself unworthy of it, by some Action notoriously bad; the Proofs of which ought to be so clear, so strong, and so evident, that no unprejudiced Person can with any Shadow of Reason deny them: An impartial Jury weighs with the strictest Delicacy every Circumstance before it pronounces a Criminal guilty of the smallest Charge offered against him. Surely this scrupulous Nicety ought to be with as much Reason observed by every good Member of Society, before he pronounces his fellow Creature fallen from the Rank of an honest Man; I have read that it was the Custom in a certain Nation to punish those who accused the Innocent wrongfully with the same Rigour they would have punished the Accused had they been found guilty: a just Law which seems founded on the nature of Things: I do not here mean to insinuate that Mr. Coats, and Mr. Crump ought to be branded with those infamous Titles of publick Cheats, &c. with which they were pleased to honour

me; Mr. *Coats* may be an honest Man, and so may Mr. *Crump*; but, if in justifying myself any thing should reflect upon them or their Friends in *London*, I am not to blame, it has been extorted from me, and will I hope, be looked upon by the unprejudiced World as a natural Consequence of their unjust Charge against me, and of my own Justification; had my Adversaries no selfish Views, and only acted from a true Principle of Honesty, I should rather chuse to be silent, and being conscious of my own Innocence, rest contented; nor should I be reduced to the disagreeable Necessity of publishing Facts which will show but little Honesty in Persons who endeavour'd to rob a young Man of his Character at his first Entrance into the World, 'tis a Cruelty that passes Murder. I looked upon them as my Friends; in particular, I esteemed Mr. *Crump* (on Account of the Friendship between him and my Uncle Mr. *Val. Brown*) as a Director, as a good natured Pilot, who would rather guide my Fortunes to a safe Harbour, than strive to shipwreck me at my first setting out, I do not say this to prejudice any Person, in my Favour, tho' I am very sensible that I have need of the Indulgence of the Publick, to excuse me for intruding myself on their Time and Patience, but my Reputation is dearer to me than Life, that lay at Stake: I had no other Method to vindicate myself, and this I hope, will be looked upon as a sufficient Apology; I am very sensible of my Incapacity in writing, and only beg the Publick will accept this as a plain Narrative of Matters of Fact which happened in a Course of Dealing, and stand thus.

In the Month of *November* 1748, having an Intention to commence Trade, I requested Mr. *Val. Browne* would recommend me to a Person in *London* whom I might employ to transact Business for me, he intended recommending me to a House of his particular

cular Friends, but Mr. *John Crump* understanding from Mr. *Browne* that I intended embarking largely in the Importation of *London Porter*, as I had a much better Opportunity of disposing of it than others concerned in that Trade, strongly recommended to him and me, Mess. *Hodges* and *Ransom*, Merchants in *Bucklersbury London*, and assured us they were his particular Friends, and would do as much Justice as any other Person in *London*, that they always shipped for him, and moreover intimated his Intention of quitting that Trade, and if I made use of his Friends, he would recommend me as many of his Customers as he could prevail upon; I should find my Advantage in it, &c. I then with the Consent of Mr. *Browne*, agreed to employ said *Hodges* and *Ransom* to ship for me, and thought myself happy in commencing a Dealing with Gentlemen so strongly recommended me by my supposed worthy Friend Mr. *Crump*; how strangely I was disappointed will appear by this plain but faithful Narrative. Mr. *Crump* wrote to them, they shipp'd for me as often as I had occasion to order until the latter end of *April 1750*, when having Occasion to go to *London* on particular Business which required my personal Care, I thought it my best Method to try the Stores of the most noted Brewers, and chuse the best Parcels I could find; Mess. *Hodges* and *Ransom* had Reason to suspect I would take this Step as I often complained of the Beer they sent me, and at the same Time insisted I had got better at different Times through other Hands on much more reasonable Terms; being conscious of the Truth of what I advanced they proposed my seeing Mess. *Whitbread* and *Snel*, Brewers, who are as I am informed their Relations, and always furnished the Parcels transmitted to me, and added, that by seeing each other we might come to a better Understanding; we accordingly met, I mentioned the bad Quality of the Beer they sent me, and complained

plained of their charging me—*per* Barrel more than what I paid others for better. My next Complaint was, the exorbitant Price they paid for the empty Casks; in order to satisfy me in that particular, they sent for a Cooper, from whom they pretended to have bought them, and insisted no Man in the City wou'd furnish on easier Terms; that they paid him the Price, charged me for all their own Casks; but insinuated that on Account of their great Friendship for me, they wou'd oblige the Cooper to charge 6d. *per* Hogshead, and two Shillings *per* Butt, less than usual; this, with their Promise of Amendment, both in the Quality and Price of the Beer, brought about a Reconciliation; and we agreed to continue our Correspondence. I have been perhaps too minute in relating the Particulars of this Interview; but as it was the first Time, I suspected the Integrity of my *London* Friends, I apply'd to different Coopers, and found by Experience I had been much overcharged. This Discovery made me more circumspect, and determin'd me to watch every Occasion that could convince me of their sinister Method in treating me; an Opportunity happily offered, I by chance observed a Bill of Parcels from the Brewers of some Beer, formerly shipped for me in the Counting-House, of *Hodges and Ransom*, and to my great Surprise, found I had been charged by the Merchants one Shilling *per* Barrel, more than appeared on said Account; it was not at that Time convenient to mention this Discovery, but took the first Opportunity of asking the Brewer to let me see the Account of Beer, shipped by Orders of *Hodges and Ransom* for me, was answer'd, he wou'd draw it out, but wou'd by no Means let me see the Books; this Proceeding will I believe appear extraordinary to any Person, ever so little acquainted with Trade. As I found it to no Purpose to insist on a Sight of the Books, I told Mr. *Whitebread*, I was convinced they had not charg'd so high as Mess. *Hodges, &c.* made
me

me pay; he deny'd the Fact, but propos'd going with me to the Merchants, and begg'd I wou'd wait for him, while he wrote a Letter, which was I suppose intended to prepare them for what was to follow, and give them sufficient Leisure to invent Evasions. The Bait did not take, I saw through the Drift, and pretended immediate Business elsewhere, went directly to *Hodges*, &c. and insisted peremptorily on seeing the Brewers Bills of Parcels, and the Accompt current between them; this was too sudden, it appears by the frivolous Excuses given, such as the Clerk's being abroad, the Books lock'd up by him, &c. I then inform'd them I had seen the Brewers Books, and at length brought them to confess they had (as Mr. *Hodges* sneeringly expressed it) got 6d. and 1s. *per* Barrel on me, were not asham'd of it, and added, it's what every Merchant in *London* wou'd do; this Aspersions on their Fellow Citizens, in order, I suppose, to justify their own Actions, is somewhat monstrous. I hope, nay, I am almost sure it's false, as I have since experienc'd by my late Correspondents; it may be insinuated by their Friends they were in Advance for me, which might seem some Apology for the Overcharge; but I can safely assure the Public, it never was the Case; my Friend Mr. *Crump* was then in *London*, and apply'd to me several Times in behalf of Mess. *Hodges*, &c. and (tho' convinc'd of the Injury done me) requested a Continuance of our Dealing. Upon my absolute Refusal, he was so kind to inform me of their Intention to mark a Writ against me, to prevent which, I at different Times told him, and them, I was ready to pay their Accompt, making me the proper Allowances for the sundry Overcharges. Their Refusal to come into these just and reasonable Terms, was the true Cause of my quitting *London* at that Time; a Circumstance so maliciously misrepresented by Mr. *Crump*, in his learned Harangue against me the 10th. Instant, at the *Globe Coffee-House*; upon Mr. *Crump*'s Return, he and Mr. *Coates*

united

united their Forces against me, and studied all Means to support the bad Cause of their good Friends in *London*, the Result of their profound Lucubrations amounted at first, to no more than a poor Apology, made to Mr. *Browne*, for the hard Treatment I met with. That the Risque in crediting me as I was under Age, deserved the Overcharge; a poor Apology, indeed, from Men of such wise Heads, especially if it be considered, that Mr. *Browne* gaurantied all my Dealings. I leave the World to judge, whether this mighty Risque deserv'd a Profit of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. on one Part, and 5 l. per Cent. on another, besides their Commission of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. which put together, makes their Profit on the Beer amount to 5 per Cent. one part, and 7 and half per Cent. the other; this Fact, is proved under their own Hands, as per Letter, Folio.

The Insufficiency of the above Subterfuge is self-evident; Mess. *Crump* and *Coates* are under a Necessity of recurring to another Invention equally false, but much more dangerous; which tended to no less than to blacken my Character, ruin my Reputation, and destroy my Trade. How have I merited this? I never did them any Injury, I never attempted to prejudice them. But Innocence must and will triumph, and false Accusation recoil on the unjust Accuser. My Adversaries did not indeed at first publish their Calumnies, but artfully endeavoured to ruin me in the Friendship of Mr. *Browne*, by falsely insinuating to him, that I had been guilty of some foul Practices in my Dealings whilst in *London*. I can't sufficiently express the cruel Anxiety my Mind laboured under, at the Coolness of my Uncle's Behaviour to me, and the Reproaches I met with from him; for, so great was his Dependence on these Gentlemen, that he seemed rather inclined to suspect me of Fraud, than them of Falshood; and indeed, had I been guilty, I would justly deserve his Displeasure, and the Contempt of Mankind. The Charge against me was, That I had agreed with a Cooper in *London*

to make Casks for me under the lawful Gauge, and ordered they should be sent to Messieurs *Whitbread* and *Snel*, with Directions to fill them for me; and insinuated I would expect a proper Allowance on the Beer for their Deficiency or Under-gauge, and this with an Intention to defraud the Public; wherefore said *Whitbread* and *Snel* refused to fill them.

This indeed is a base Charge, had I been guilty of it, I should hardly now attempt to vindicate myself. To take away a Man's Character, something more is required than a bare Assertion; it is necessary to produce a Proof, this was wanting, thus I called for; conscious as I was, of mine own Innocence, and astonished at their base Calumnies, I insisted upon knowing what Grounds they had for aspersing me in so vile a Manner. At length, I was told by Mr. *Coates*, That he had no less Authority for what he said than a Letter from under mine own Hand, which should be produced as soon as Mr. *Crump* returned from *Chester Fair*: This he repeated several Times to Mr. *Brown*, and me. I was well satisfied it was out of the Power of any Person to prove a bare Intention of Fraud against me. But I no sooner heard of the Letter than I began to tremble, not indeed for myself, I knew mine own Innocence, but for them, lest they should produce a Letter, of which they alone could be the Authors.

I waited the Arrival of Mr. *Crump* with the utmost Impatience, which no sooner happened than I reminded Mr. *Browne* to call for this supposed Letter; a considerable Time passed, no Letter appeared; in the Interim my Adversaries lost no Time in propagating their scandalous Aspersions to my Disadvantage: Mr. *Coates* even had Assurance enough to assert them as undoubted Truths in publick Company, in the Presence of Mr. *Browne* and some other Gentlemen. It is true the Occasion was somewhat delicate; for Mr. *Browne*, in Vindication of my Innocence, produced a Letter from

Hodges and Ransom, in which they confessed an Overcharge upon me of 23 l. 15. This is evident; this is a Demonstration, and a sufficient Reason for me not to pay them 'till I am satisfied in the Particulars of their Account. Poor Mr. *Coates* had no other Resource left to clear his Friends in London of a Guilt they were candid enough to own themselves, but by aspersing my innocent Character. I called Mr. *Coates* to Account the very next Day in the Coffee-house, in as civil a Manner as I could, or the Circumstances would admit, when he suddenly burst into all the Violence of an impetuous Passion, surprized, I suppose at my Boldness in daring to attack him, or measure myself with a Man of his Weight and Bulk; he then was pleased to bestow on me the shining Titles of Publick Cheat, &c. said he would prove me such by a Letter from under my own Hand; which Letter he promised to publish in the News Papers: For the Truth of what I here assert, I appeal to all the Gentlemen present at this Interview, and as a further Proof to my own Affidavit hereto annexed.

Upon cool Reflection, the Remonstrances of his Friends, and comparing Notes with Mr. *Crump*, Mr. *Coates* found he had advanced what their united Powers could not prove; it was thought necessary to deny his having mentioned a Letter; It required, I must own, a good Front. Mr. *Crump*, whose Abilities are known to most Men, must support his Friend; he is denounced to the Publick the Author of the Accusation. I must now quit Mr. *Coates*, and leave the World to judge of the Character he acted whilst on the Stage. It would be deem'd Presumption in me to attempt giving Mr. *Crump's* Harangue in my Style, that Gentleman has somewhat singular in all his Words and Actions; let it suffice that if you except a few Graces quite peculiar to himself, it contained very little else than what has been already recited; there were many Gentlemen of Credit

dit and Character present in the Coffee-house upon this solemn Occasion, when a bad Cause, supported by Eloquence and Fortune, was to confound plain unassisted Innocence; as we were equally destitute of Proofs to support our Allegations, a Cessation of Hostilities was proclaimed, the Publick intreated to suspend their Judgment until an Easterly Wind waisted over the Defensive Weapons.

I must now resume the Charge against me, and hope to convince every unprejudiced Person, that though I were deprived of the annexed Affidavits, the whole is void of Probability, Reason, and Common Sense. I at one and the same Time purchased double that Number of Casks which Mr. *Crum* acknowledges to have received, whereof one Part were promiscuously sent to *Whitebread, &c.* and on Account of the Breach between us, afterwards consigned to Mr. *Crum*, the Remainder were filled by *Collison* and Company, and *Ralph Trale, Esq;* and appear by Affidavit to be of accustom'd Gauge, how then comes it to pass that the 20 Butts filled by *Whitebread, &c.* should be the only under Gauge? Certainly if I intended a Fraud, and had given the Cooper proper Directions, the whole Parcel would be calculated to answer the same Purposes: But supposing what Mr. *Crum* advances were Fact, the contrary whereof will sufficiently appear, the intire Allowance for Deficiency would scarce amount to forty Shillings; a poor Equivalent indeed for entrusting my Reputation to the Mercy of so many different Persons! the Cooper, the Brewers and Merchants; it would be selling my Inheritance for a Mess of Pottage. This is here a tedious, but a true State of the Case between Messieurs *Coates* and *Crum* on the one Part, and me on the other. I ask no Gentleman to believe me on my bare Assertion; that would be begging the Question, for which Reason I refer to the proper Affidavits hereto annexed.

I first present to the Readers a Letter from Messieurs *Hodges and Ransom* to *Mr. Browne*, by which they acknowledge an Overcharge of £. 23 01 00.

Mr. Dominick Molloy of *Dublin*, his Account current with *Hodges and Ransom* of *London*, viz.

To Sundries, &c. £. 12 10 00

By Overcharges, 23 01 00

Ballance due, Errors excepted, £. 12 09 00

At 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. makes £. --- Irish

Mr. Val. Browne,
London, Nov. 1st. 1750.

S I R,

YOU have herewith your Nephew's Account, which we look upon you as Guarantee to; have sent it likewise per this Post to him more at large; have drawn a Bill on him or you, Value £. --- Irish, which hope you or he will pay on Demand; for farther Particulars refer you to him.

Your humble Servant,

Hodges and Ransom.

County of the City of } *Dominick Molloy*, Merchant.
Dublin, to wit, } maketh Oath on the
holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that some time in *June* or *July* last, as he was riding with *Mr. Valentine Browne* and *Hosea Coates*, he called said *Mr. Hosea Coates* to account for accusing him to said *Mr. Valentine Browne*, of some fraudulent Practices in his Dealings, that the said *Coates* answered, that what he told *Mr. Browne* was true, that *Mr. Crump* had a Letter under his the said *Molloy's* own Hand-writing

writing to the Brewers, ordering them to fill Casks for him that were under Gauge, and this as told to Mr. *Crum* came Home, he being then gone to the Fair of *Chester*, he would produce this Letter; that this Letter was one of the principal Things the said *Molloy* spoke to the said *Coates* about the 9th *Novemb.* in the *Globe* Coffee-house; and that the said *Coates* answered, and repeated two or three different Times, "I can produce the Letter, and will have that Letter published in the News Papers," or Words to the same Effect.

Sworn before me this 21st Day of *December*, 1750.

Hen. Barrington
Dominick Molloy.

I have here convicted Mr. *Coates* of two notorious Falshoods; first, in regard to the Letter he promised to produce; Secondly, in the Excuse he made for his Friend's having overcharged me. Mr. *Crum* insisted the 10th *Nov.* he got but Ten Butts; he has since own'd he got twenty as per *Dublin* Entries will appear, he enter'd ten Butts and forty Hogheads the 7th of *June*, and ten Butts and twenty Hogheads the 6th of *July*; and he says he now believes the Allowance he got of a Hoghead and a half, was meant on the whole; he has no Invoice, nor has he produced any Letter concerning that Allowance, the last Ten he got lay empty at the Brewer's for some time after I left *London*. If they were under Gauge, how came they to fill and send them to Mr. *Crum* to be sold for their Account.

The following is a Copy of the Letter I wrote to Messieurs *Blake* and *Quin*, on *Saturday*, the 10th of *November*, praying them to exert themselves in procuring for me such Proofs as would fully convince the World of my Innocence.

Messieurs

Mess. *Blake and Qyin.*

Dublin, Nov. 10th, 1750.

S I R S,

MY last was the 6th Instant, remitting you Wi-
dow *Wilkinson* and Sons Draft on *Eleanor*
Edwards for ——— l. to which refer, since not fa-
voured with any of your's : This is desiring your
Assistance in an Affair of the greatest Consequence,
where my Character is at Stake; and, as I am con-
scious of my own Innocence, would willingly convince
the World of it, and shew the black Designs of those
who attempt wounding me in so tender a Part,
therefore must now depend entirely on you to pro-
cure me such real Proofs as are sufficient to satisfy
the World. You must remember the Reasons I gave
you for quitting Dealing with *Hodges* and *Ransom* :
Said Gentlemen, to blacken me, have propagated
a Story here by the Means of some bad People em-
ployed by them for that Purpose. It is thus : You
remember I told you of an Agreement I made with
Bowell for Butts and Hogheads at such a Price,
one Score of which Butts went to these People to be
filled for me : They now say that I got these Casks
made under Gauge, and that I was to be allowed
by the Brewer for whatever they held under Gauge,
and that I agreed with *Bowell* to have my Casks
made so. This has been asserted here in private Com-
pany ; and Yesterday having called one of the Per-
sons concerned to Account, before near one hundred
Gentlemen, he dared to say, he would prove what
he said ; and this Day we met at the Coffee-house, to
tell each our Stories ; the Issue of which was, that I
prayed the Gentlemen present to forbear judging of
either Side until the Return of the Post, as I should
then be prepared to prove my Innocence, and their
Falshoods. Now, I must pray you immediately, on
Receipt of this, to apply to *Bowell* to get his Affida-
vit

will sworn before a Magistrate, and attested by you
 and some other Merchants, concerning the Agree-
 ment I made with him; that is, Whether I ever
 gave him any Directions, of any sort, to make Casks
 for me under Gauge? Or, whether he and I ever
 had any Discourse of that sort? As likewise your
 own Affidavit, that some of the same Casks I bought
 from the same Man, when in London, were sent to
 Collyson and Trail, and that you never heard the
 Casks were under Gauge, and that therein, and all other
 Invoices of Beer, you got from Collyson, Trail,
 and another you bought some Beer from, for me, were
 always charged as Casks containing the full Gauge,
 and that you never got any Allowance for me on
 any Casks. All this, and whatever else is necessary,
 I must beg of you to do for me, and send it by the
 Return of the Post, as that is the Time appointed
 for clearing myself to the Public. I am certain,
 Hedges and Ransom, and their Relations the Brewers,
 will do all in their Power to support this Falshood:
 And I think it proper that you should lose no Time,
 on Receipt of this, in seeing Bowell, for fear the
 others should, on the Accounts they receive from
 their Friends here, see him, and prevail on him in
 their Interest. If Bowell is out of the Way, or in the
 Country, I must beg of you to use all Means to find
 him out, and, if an hundred Miles from London,
 send a Messenger to him; if he is on his Keeping
 still, bring a proper Person to him to take his Testi-
 mony, be the Expence what it will; for I would not
 want his Testimony for five hundred Pounds. I have
 no more to say, but that I put myself entirely into
 your Hands, as I am certain of your Endeavours to
 prove my Innocence; and am, very sincerely,

Your most humble Servant,

Dominick Molloy.

P. S. They are to have their Proofs, if any, at
 the same time.

Here

Here is the Copy of their Answer to the above,
which I received the 24th. Instant.

London, Nov. 17th. 1750.
Mr. Dominick Molloy.

S I R,
We refer you to our last, 15th. current. Since
are favoured with yours, 10th. ditto, and must
declare to you, we were never more astonish'd in
our Lives, than at the Contents thereof; we cou'd
scarcely have believed, there were out of Hell, Vil-
lains black enough to assert so notorious a Falshood
as that you mention, much more to dare offer to
prove it. But, depend they shall thoroughly rue
their knavish Design; as we think it will be highly
incumbent on you, not to let this Affair die here,
but have them arraign'd for it in the King's-Bench;
and you may depend we shall concur with you in
every Thing, to make an Example of such Friends;
but you will take proper Advice on this, not
that we have the least Fear of want of Proofs,
or that it may go against you; but in Law-Affairs
People are generally at more Expence than they
are awarded. We've had Persons looking out
for Mr. *Bowell*, since we receiv'd your Letter
Yesterday, and all this Day, but cannot find
him, tho' we found out his Lodging; it seems
he went down the River on some Occasion, but
we cou'd not learn where, nor is he yet returned;
if he be living, we shall find him by next Post;
when we shall send you such Proofs, as will make
them Villains appear of so black a Hue, that all honest
Men must avoid them as Banes to Society; in the
mean Time you have inclos'd an Affidavit properly
attested of *Collison*, from whom we had most of the
Beer we sent you, particularly that for which you
agreed with *Bowell* for the Casks. He sent in Casks
likewise for the Beer we had for you from *Ralph*
Thrale,

Thrale, Esq; whose Affidavit you shall also have next Post, it is now made out by his Direction, but we could not get him up to sign it, till it was too late to find any Magistrate in Town, this being Saturday. If your Gentlemen were this side of the Water, we shou'd make them know to their cost, how sacred the Characters of honest Men shou'd be, and how dangerous it is to asperse them without Foundation. You may depend on hearing from us next Post, mean Time we remain

S I R,

Your most obedient Servants,
Blake and Quin.

William Collison's Testimony on Oath.

W*illiam Collison*, one of the Copartners of *Isaac Applebee*, and *John Gibbon*, of *Barneby-street South-wark*, in the County of *Surrey*, Brewers, maketh Oath, on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that all the Beer sold by him, this Deponent and Company, for some considerable Time last past to Mess. *Blake and Quin*, of *London*, Merchants, in order to be by them sent, and Consigned to *Dublin*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, was as he this Deponent really and in good Faith verily believes, fill'd in Butts and Hogsheads of a proper Gauge, according to the Standard of *London*, and that neither he, this Deponent nor his said Partners, ever made any Abatement, or Allowance to the said *Blake and Quin*, or any other Person, or Persons belonging to them, or for whom they might, were, or are concerned on account of the Want of Measure, (if any) in such Butts, or Hogsheads, nor ever were required nor desired so to do, by the said *Blake and Quin*, or any other Person as aforesaid; But always charged the said Butts and Hogsheads as full Standard.

Sworn the 17th. Day of No-

vember 1760, before me,

Charles Asgill.

William Collison.

I *Anthony Weldon* Notary, and Tabellion Publick, dwelling in *London*, by Royal Authority, duly admitted and sworn, do hereby Certify and Attest to all to whom it doth or may concern, that the Signature (*Cbas. Asgill*) to the Jurat here before written, is of the proper Hand Writing of the Right Worshipful *Charles Asgill*, Esq; one of the Aldermen and Justices of the Peace of this City, who in due Form Administered Oath, to the Deponent *William Collison*, on the Day, of the Date hereof, in the Presence of me the said Notary, of which Premisses I have granted this Act, being thereunto required. Done in *London*, this Seventeenth Day of *November*, 1750.

In Testimonium Veritatis

Ant. Weldon, Not. Pub. 1750.

By the next Packets which arrived in *Dublin*, the 29th of *Nov.* I received the following Letters and Affidavits from my worthy Friends Messrs. *Blake* and *Quin*, who deservedly enjoy that Great, that inestimable Character of HONEST and Good Men, a Signal Instance of which I have experienced in my own Person from their Readiness to vindicate my injured Innocence.

Their first Letter is as follows :

Mr. Dominick Molloy,

London, 20th, *Nov.* 1750.

SIR,

OUR last was 17th Current, carrying you *William Collison's* Affidavit, in regard to the Gauge of the Calks wherein he filled the Beer, we sent you, since are not favoured with any of yours. — Inclosed, you have two other Affidavits to the same Purpose, one of them of *Mr. Fbrales* Clerk, and the other of *Bowell's* Man, who made the Calks, together with that of our Book-Keeper, who managed our Business chiefly, at that Time: These

we

we are certain will fully suffice to clear you of all Aspersions, and make your Innocence appear as flagrant as they must your Accusers Guilt.—We at last found out *Bowell* yesterday Morning who told us, that his Man *Jos. Sweetland* was the Person who did his Business at that Time (he himself being then in trouble, and since a Bankrupt) and that he could consequently swear more positively in regard to the Casks than he could, but said, he would swear solemnly, that you never made any Proposal to, or Agreement with him, to make said Casks under Gauge, nor ever had any discourse with him, tending to that Effect, either by yourself or others; but as he was going down the River on a Job, as he said, we could not prevail on him to stay even half an Hour to make an Affidavit; he promised to return and call on us this Morning, but have not heard of him since, tho' have had People looking for him all this Day: If we can find him betwixt this and next Post, we shall send you his Affidavit, with our own, and attested Copies of the Bills of Parcels of the Beer shipp'd in said Casks, which will corroborate the other Affidavits, and clearly shew, that you at least pay for the full Quantity, that Casks of full Standard should contain.

We are very sincerely,

S I R,

Your most obedient Servants,

Blake and Quint

Mr. Dominick Malloy,

London 22d. Nov. 1750.

S I R,

SINCE our Last, 20th. Current, are not favoured with any of yours, we could not find *Bowell* all Day yesterday, but left a Note at his Lodgings last Night, praying him to call on us this Morning, and when we sent there this Morning, he was gone out, and had left word with his Wife,

that he would call upon us. We found him afterwards a little before Exchange Time, when he said he was busy, and could not then spare Time, but could in the Evening; and about 3 o' Clock we found him in a Purcell House, and as he could then have no Excuse, he absolutely refused it, and said, he would do nothing without the Advice of his Attorney.—You have however inclosed our own Affidavit, with the attested Copies of the Bills Parcels, which we think sufficient to convince all the World of your Innocence,

We are sincerely,

S I R,

Your most obedient Servants.

Blake and Quin.

WALTER QUIN, one of the Co-partners of the Mercantile House of Business, which goes under the Name of Messrs. Blake and Quin of London, Merchants; maketh Oath, upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, That he this Deponent by his Clerk or Book-Keeper, *Luke Keeffe*, in or about the Month of *June* or *July* last past, shipp'd on Board sundry Ships to the Consignment of *Dominic Molloy* of *Dublin*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, Forty Hogsheads and Five Butts, sent in by *Richard Bowell*, late of *Shad Thames*, in the County of *Surry*, Cooper, or his Order, part to Messrs *Collison* and Company of *Barnaby Street*, in the County of *Surry*, Brewers, and the Remainder to *Ralph Trale*, Esq; of *Dead Man's Place*, of the County aforesaid, also Brewer: Which were all intirely filled with Beer by them, and, that he, this Deponent and his Partner was, and is charged for the same, as being full Gauge without any Abatement as appears by the respective Bills of Parcels, delivered in by the said respective Brewers, the true Copies whereof, are hereunto annexed, and, that neither he, this Deponent, his said Partner, or any Person for them, on

Account

Account of the said *Dominick Molloy*, ever had directly or indirectly any other Butts or Hogsheds from the said *Richard Bowell*, than what is above mentioned, and this Deponent further saith, that he, this Deponent never heard, knows of, or believes, that the said *Collison* and Company, or the said *Ralph Trale*, ever was required, desired, or intended to make any Abatement whatsoever, for or on Account of any short Measure (if any in the said Butts and Hogsheds) and this Deponent further saith, that upon applying to the said *Richard Bowell*, in order to obtain his Deposition for the Purposes aforesaid, he, the said *Richard Bowell* said and declared to him, this Deponent, that at the Time of making the said Butts and Hogsheds, he, the said *Richard Bowell* laboured under Misfortunes, and that his Man by Name, *Joseph Sweetland*, to whom he gave Directions, was the Person that transacted this Affair for him, and that he never contracted with the said *Molloy*, or any other Person for him, to make any of the said Butts, or Hogsheds under Gauge, of which he promised to make Affidavit whenever thereunto required; but this Deponent further says, after several Applications since made to him, and his repeated Promises to do the same, he at last has absolutely refused to comply therewith, by which this Deponent surmises he has been tampered with, in order to postpone the same.

Sworn the 22d. Day of Nov. Anno Dom. 1750, before me,

Charles Asgill.

Walter Quin

If Mr. *Bowell* should hereafter Certify any thing contrary to the Tenour of the above Affidavit, I submit to the Publick, what Credit he is intitled to, I have sufficient Grounds to apprehend his being tempted, as he refused to comply with Mr. *Quin's* reasonable and just Request.

I *Anthony*

I *Anthony Weldon*, Notary and Tabellion Publick, dwelling in *London*, by Royal Authority, duly admitted and sworn: Do hereby Certify and Attest, that the Signature *Charles Asgill*, set and subscribed to the foot of the foregoing Affidavit, is of the proper hand Writing of the Worshipful *Charles Asgill*, Esq; Alderman, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this City, *London*, who administred the Oath in due Form of Law, in presence of me the said Notary.

Witness my notarial Firm and Seal in *London* aforesaid, this 22d Day of *Nov. 1750*

In Testimonum Veritatis.

Anthony Weldon, Not. Pub. 1750.

WE the under-written Notaries, do hereby certify and attest, that Mr. *Anthony Weldon*, who has signed the foregoing Certificate is a Notary and Tabellion Publick, Practising in this City, faithful, legal, and of all Trust, to whose Acts intire Faith and Credit is, and ought to be given both in Judgment Courts, and thereout.

Witness our Hands in *London* aforesaid, this 22d. of *Nov. 1750*.

Abraham Ogier, Not. Pub. 1750.

Charles Wiseman, Not. Pub. 1750.

J*oseph Sweetland*, late Foreman to *Richard Bowells* of *Shad, Thames*, in the County of *Surry*, Cooper; and *Luke Keefe*, Clerk and Book-keeper to Messieurs *Blake* and *Quin* of *London*, Merchants, severally make Oath upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, as follows; that is to say, And first, the said *Joseph Sweetland* deposeth and saith, that he this Deponent some time since, by Order of his said Master, *Richard Bowells*, made up for *Dominick Molloy* of *Dublin*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, then in *London*, a certain Number of Butts and Hogsheds,

all

all which, or the major Part thereof, he this Deponent says he himself made up, hoop'd and deliver'd, and this Deponent further says, that all the said Butts and Hogsheads were and are, as he this Deponent, really and in good Faith, verily believes of their full Gauge, according to the Custom and Standard of *London*, and some of them more; and further, the said Deponent deposeth and saith, that he this Deponent never, directly or indirectly heard, knows, or believes, that the said *Richard Bowells* ever agreed with, or had any Orders from, or Discourse with the said *Dominick Molloy*, or any other Person whatsoever for making, nor did he this Deponent make any of the said Butts and Hogsheads under Gauge, or was ever directed or desired so to do: And the other Deponent, *Luke Keefe*, also deposeth and saith, that all the said Butts and Hogsheads were, by the other Deponent, *Joseph Sweetland*, sent some of them to Messieurs *Collison* and Company, of *Barnaby-street, Southwark*, in the County of *Surry* aforesaid, Brewers; and the Remainder to *Ralph Thrale*, Esq; of *Dead Man's Place*, in the same County also, Brewer, to be filled with Beer, which was accordingly done, and the same afterwards by him this Deponent, by the Orders of said Messieurs *Blake* and *Quin*, ship'd off and consign'd to the said *Dominick Molloy*; and further, this Deponent says, that he doth not know, nor ever heard that the said Butts or Hogsheads, or any of them were under Gauge; but instead thereof verily believes the same to be according to the Standard aforesaid, the whole having been by the said Brewers, charged to the said *Dominick Molloy*, or the said *Blake* and *Quin*, for him as such without any Abatement whatsoever; nor did the said *Blake* and *Quin*, he this Deponent or any Person for them, or for the said *Dominick Molloy*, as this Deponent also verily believes, directly or indirectly apply for, expect, desire or receive any Deduction, Allowance
or

or Abatement whatsoever from the said Brewers or either of them, he this Deponent giving for further Reasons of such his Knowledge in the Premises, for that he himself had the sole Management and Direction thereof in his Capacity aforesaid, as Mr. *Blake* was ill and Mr. *Quin*, then in *Ireland*.

Both sworn the 20th of } his
November, 1750 before } *Joseph (+) Sweetland,*
me, } Mark.
} *Charles Asgill.* } *Luke Keefe.*

I *Anthony Weldon*, Notary and Tabellion Public, dwelling in *London*, by Royal Authority duly admitted and sworn, do hereby certify and attest, That the Signature *Charles Asgill* set and subscribed to the Jurat at the Foot of the above Affidavit, is of the proper Hand-writing of the Right Worshipful *Charles Asgill*, Esq; Alderman, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this City of *London*, who administered the Oath in due Form of Law, in Presence of me, Notary to the Deponent therein mentioned; and that to all Affidavits before him made, and by him signed, full and undoubted Faith and Credit is and ought to be given, both in Judgment Courts and out thereof. Witness my Notarial Firm and Seal in *London*, aforesaid, this 20th Day of November, 1750.

In Testimonium Veritatis,
Anthony Weldon, Not. Pub. 1750.

WE, the under-written Notaries, do hereby certify and attest, That Mr. *Anthony Weldon*, who has signed the foregoing Certificate, is a Notary and Tabellion Public, practising in this City, faithful, lawful and of Trust; to whose Acts full Faith and Credit is and ought to be given, both in Courts and thereout. Witness our Hands in *London*, aforesaid,

aforesaid, this 20th Day of November, Anno Dom. 1750.

Cha. Wiseman, Not. Pub. 1750.

Moses Schomberg, Not. Pub. 1750.

GEORGE LESTER, Clerk and Book-keeper to *Ralph Thrale, Esq.* of *Deadman's-place* in the County of *Surry*, Brewer, maketh Oath upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, That all the Beer sold by his, this Deponent's Master, in the Month of *June* last past, to *Dominick Molloy* of *Dublin*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, Merchant, then in *London*, was filled in five Butts and twenty Hogsheads, he, this Deponent, in his Capacity aforesaid, standing by whilst the same were so filling. And the said Deponent doth further depose, and say, That he also verily believes, neither the said *Ralph Thrale*, or any Person for him, ever made, or intend to make, any Abatement or Allowance to the said *Dominick Molloy*, or any other Person or Persons whatsoever, on account, or by Reason or Means of the want of Measure, (if any) which this Deponent knows nothing of, in such Butts or Hogsheads, nor ever was required so to do by the said *Dominick Molloy*, or any other Person or Persons, as aforesaid, but that all the said Butts and Hogsheads were, and are, charged as full Standard.

Sworn the 20th Day of November, Anno Dom. 1750, before me,

Steph. Theod. Jansson.

G. Lester.

I *Anthony Weldon*, Notary and Tabellion public, dwelling in *London*, by Royal Authority duly admitted and sworn, do hereby certify and attest, That the Signature *Steph. Theod. Jansson*, set and subscribed to the Jurat at the Foot of the above Affidavit, is of the proper Hand-writing of the Right Worshipful *Stephen Theodore Jansson, Esq.* Alderman, and one of

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his

his Majesty's Justices of Peace for this City of *London*, who administered the Oath in due Form of Law, in presence of me, Notary to the Deponent therein mentioned, and that to all Affidavits before him made, and by him signed, full and undoubted Faith and Credit is and ought to be given, both in Judgment Courts and out thereof. Witness my Notarial Firm and Seal in *London*, aforesaid, this 20th Day of *November*, *Anno Dom.* 1750.

In Testimonium Veritatis.

Ant. Weldon, Not. Pub. 1750.

WE, the under-written Notaries, do hereby certify and attest, That Mr. *Anthony Weldon*, who hath signed this foregoing Certificate, is a Notary and Tabellion public, practising in this City of *London*, faithful, lawful and of Trust; to whose Acts full Faith and Credit is and ought to be given, both in Courts and out thereof. Witness our Hands in *London*, aforesaid, this 20th Day of *November*, *Anno Dom.* 1750.

Charles Wiseman, Not. Pub. 1750.

Johannes Pacosta, Not. Pub. 1750.

Follows a Copy of Mr. *Brown's* Letter, *Saturday* the 10th *November*, upon this Occasion, to Mr. *Matthew Reily*, Merchant, in *London*.

Mr. Matthew Reily,

Nov. 10, 1750.

S I R,

THE Character of my Nephew, *Dominick Molloy*, has been publicly called in question here, with respect of ordering, from Messrs. *Whitebread* and *Suel*, some parcels of Beer to be put in small Casks, and so that he might thereby have the Allowance of what they wanted from the Brewer, and at the same Time charge the Public here as if they were full Gauge; and that said *Whitebread* and *Suel* told him, when in *London*, that his Casks were under Gauge,

Gauge, and would not fill them for that particular Reason. Now, Sir, I must request, for many Reasons, that, on sight of this, you'll apply to them, to know how they came to give out such a Story, and to assure them, that they must immediately clear themselves, as to the hurting his Character, or else he will take proper Steps to oblige them to it: And request you'll take particular Notice of their Answer to you, and transmit the same to me *per* Return of the Post.

I am, Sir, your humble Servant,

Val. Browne.

Mr. Reily's Answer received Thursday 29, Ditto.

Mr. Val. Browne.

London, 20th November, 1750.

S I R,

I This Day spoke to Mr. *Whitebread* about the Contents of your Letter of the 10th Inst. who says, he knows nothing of the Matter: That he recommended a Cooper to him, and that afterwards some Difference arose between Mr. *Molloy* and his Merchant about Casks; and this is all that he remembers of the Affair.

I am, Sir,

Your assured humble Servant,

Matth. Reily.

It may be necessary to remind the Public, that Mr. *Crump* (in urging the above Charge against me) had no other Proof or Authority to produce but the bare Word of Mr. *Whitebread*, which he asserted with his usual Confidence. The above Letter proves the little Right he had to mention that Gentleman's Name.

I have here subjoined the Affidavit of *Bernard Sherin*, a Man who has served me this Year past

with great Fidelity, whose Honesty can be attested by many Persons of Credit.

County of } **B**ERNARD SHERIN, Clerk and Coor-
Dublin. } per to Mr. *Dominick Molloy*, came
this Day before me, and made Oath on the Holy
Evangelists, That he came to the Service of Mr.
Molloy the Month of *December* 1749, and that ever
since he has attended the Sales of all and every Par-
cel and Parcels of *London* Porter Beer imported and
sold by his said Master, and that he never knew any
Casks coming from *London* to him to be smaller, or
of less Size, than what usually comes to every other
Person, and that if there were any of them under
Size he could not miss noticing them: That he has
been among his said Master's Customer's constantly,
and that he never knew or heard any of them com-
plain of the smallness of said Casks.

Sworn before me, this 29th Day of *November*,
1750.

Bernard Sherin.

William Rice.

Mr. *Crump*'s last Shift, when defeated on every
Side, and destitute of all Proofs, was to apply to
Mr. *Edward Hill*, Gauger, and employ him to
gauge two of the suspected Casks, pretending it was
on account of a Wager laid by some Gentlemen, as
said Mr. *Hill* told me: He went accordingly and
gauged them, but since declared to me, that they
then were in such a position that he could not take
an exact Gauge of them: I immediately procured
one of the very same Casks, and give to the Public
Mr. *Hill*'s Affidavit and Certificates in regard to
them.

GAUG'D, upon the Application of Mr. *Molloy*,
one of the two Butts gaug'd the 27th Inst. for
Mr. *Crump*, it being now empty, and the Bung Dia-
meter properly taken, and find it contains 129 Gal-
lons

lons 63 Parts. As Witness my Hand this 30th of
November 1750.

Edward Hill.

The above Cask, for my own Satisfaction, I
bought and filled with Water, it contained 131 full
Gallons, which, if requisite, will appear.

GAUG'D, at Mr. *Caspar Reily's*, two Butts of
Porter, one marked C. R. being part of twenty
Butts Imported by said *Reily*; the other, of a Parcel
sold said *Reily* by Mr. *John Crump*, and find there
is not above a Gallon Difference in said Butts. Wit-
ness my Hand this 30th of November, 1750.

Edward Hill.

County of the City } **M**R. *Edward Hill*, Gauger,
of Dublin } came this Day before me,
and made Oath on the Holy Evangelists, That he
never found any Casks of Mr. *Dominick Molloy's*,
gauged by him on the Custom-house-quay, to be of
less Size than what is usually imported by every
other Merchant; and that he, the said *Molloy*, has
been always charged as such in the Gauge-book at
the Custom-house. And he, the said *Edward Hill*,
further saith, That through Experience he has found,
that the general Gauge of Porter Butts coming from
London, is from one hundred twenty-five to one hun-
dred thirty-five Gallons.

Sworn before me this 30th of November, 1750.

Edward Hill.

Hen. Burrowes.

This is a simple but sincere Narrative of my Case,
destitute of all the borrow'd Ornaments of Rhetoric,
which I submit, with all Humility, to the Public,
Truth stands its own Protection and Defence; it
needeth not the useless Artillery of Eloquence;
but, conscious of its own unconquerable Strength,
despises the vain Attacks of Slander and Falshood.

The

The Proofs I have given will, I hope, convince every unprejudiced Person that I have been wrong'd, basely wrong'd: If the bare Word of any single Man, however self-interested his Views may be, outweighs the united Testimonies and solemn Oaths of Persons, at least, of equal Credit, what honest Man is safe? Who can say his Reputation is his own, whilst there is a Slanderer left in the World, to tarnish that precious Jewel with the Infection of his poison'd Breath? If that were the Case, Trade is gone, Commerce destroy'd, and all the Bands of Civil Society are broken asunder. No: Thank Heaven! there are still worthy, honest, generous Men, who will assert the Innocence of the Injur'd, and condemn the Guilty; them only I would wish to please; them only I would be glad to satisfy; as my utmost Ambition reaches no higher, than to fill the Station of Life God has placed me in, with the Character of an HONEST MAN.

F I N I S.

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